



Docket No. 18733/00040

AF 1 3726
Jw #

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

U.S. Application of:

Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO and
Yasushi WATANABE

For:

METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A
HOLLOW RACK SHAFT

Confirmation No.:

7306

U.S. Serial No.:

09/803,560

Filed:

March 9, 2001

Group Art Unit:

3726

Examiner:

Marc Quemuel Jimenez

Commissioner for Patents

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on

SEPTEMBER 7, 2004

Date of Deposit

DOUGLAS A. SORENSEN

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

Signature

SEPTEMBER 7, 2004

Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants wish to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. As each item was cited in a related application, no copy of the documents is enclosed.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in

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any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited below are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind.


- (1) Rogers, U.S. Patent No. 4,641,406, issued February 10, 1987;
- (2) Wallis et al, U.S. Patent No. 4,646,554, issued March 3, 1987;
- (3) Bishop, U.S. Patent No. 5,992,205, issued November 30, 1999;
- (4) Ozeki, U.S. Patent No. 6,289,710 B1, issued September 18, 2001;
- (5) Yamawaki, U.S. Patent No. 6,317,979 B1, issued November 20, 2001;
- (6) Tsubouchi et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,442,992 B2, issued September 3 2002;
- (7) Akiyama et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,502,473 B1, issued January 7, 2003;
- (8) Shiokawa, U.S. Patent No. 6,575,009 B2, issued June 10, 2003;
- (9) Tsubouchi et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,588,293 B2, issued July 8, 2003;
and
- (10) Tsubouchi et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,779,271 B2, issued August 24, 2004.

As this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing of the final Office Action under § 1.113, but before the receipt of a Notice of Allowance under § 1.311, whichever occurs first, the required fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) for the submission of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260. The

Serial No. 09/803,560

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (three pages) is being filed in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**SUPPLEMENTAL
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANTS**

SEP 10 2004

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/803,560
Confirmation No.	7306
Filing Date	March 9, 2001
First Inventor	Akira TSUBOUCHI et al.
Group Art Unit	3726
Examiner Name	Marc Quemuel Jimenez
Attorney Docket No.	18733/00040

Sheet **1** of **1****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite #	DOCUMENT NUMBER	C O D E	PATENTEE	ISSUE DATE (mm/dd/yy)	CLASS	SUB CLAS S	Filing Date if Appropriate
	(1)	4,641,406		Rogers	02/10/87	29	159.2	
	(2)	4,646,554		Wallis et al	03/03/87	72	406	
	(3)	5,992,205		Bishop	11/30/99	72	360	
	(4)	6,289,710	B1	Ozeki	09/18/01	72	370.04	
	(5)	6,317,979	B1	Yamawaki	11/20/01	29	893.34	
	(6)	6,442,992	B2	Tsubouchi et al	09/03/02	72	370.21	
	(7)	6,502,473	B1	Akiyama et al	01/07/03	74	89.17	
	(8)	6,575,009	B2	Shiokawa	06/10/03	72	370.06	
	(9)	6,588,293	B2	Tsubouchi et al	07/08/03	74	422	
	(10)	6,779,271	B2	Tsubouchi et al	08/24/04			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	OFF ICE	NUMBER	C O D E	PUBLICATION DATE (mm/dd/yy)	TRANSLATION Yes No

OTHER NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published
Examiner Signature	Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.